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Cy. 1 of 3

Extract from DD/I diary of 23 April 1952. Respecting visit of DD/I and AD/Ne with General Bolling.

We reviewed the purposes and objectives of the post mortem system instituted by O/NE and explained particularly

- i. That this procedure applied only to periodic type estimates;
- ii. That it was necessary to do this work in advance of formulation of terms of reference, because of the lead-time factor involved; and
- iii. That it seemed to us to be the only satisfactory means for securing agreed-upon action to fill in both collection and research gaps. We had chosen this method as a rough means of focusing upon high priority projects, rather than attempting to cover the entire water front. Both Gen. Bolling and Gen. Weckerling (who was present during the discussion of this point only) expressed full agreement with the objective and the procedure suggested for the post mortem program. The only reservation expressed by Gen. Weckerling was concern that when the post mortem was brought before the IAC there would arise differences as to the priorities to be established respecting these projects. He preferred a staff memo outlining the nature of the general program, for presentation to the IAC. After some discussion (which continued after Gen. Weckerling had to leave for the Watch Committee meeting), it was made plain to Gen. Bolling that the only purpose of bringing "post-mortems" before the IAC was to have them "noted", rather than discussed, and it was also indicated by Dr. Kent that Adm. Johnson was most anxious that this be done, so as to give a certain amount of stature to the program. Thereupon, Gen. Bolling expressed himself as in agreement with having these post mortems put on the IAC agenda for noting.

I then explained to Gen. Bolling the background of the indicator program and we agreed that this was an extremely worthwhile project. It was CIA's suggestion that this program be notified to the IAC, which, in turn, would request the Watch Committee to employ this program as one of its most useful tools. Gen. Bolling expressed himself as in agreement with this suggestion.

I then turned to the issue of the Watch Committee. At the beginning of our discussion Gen. Bolling asked me whether we regarded it as satisfactory. I stated that, in general, the program was satis-

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factory. I stated that, in general, the program was satisfactory with the exception of the matters that I was about to raise. We felt that too much time was devoted in Watch Committee meetings to the reporting of facts and not sufficient time devoted to study and discussion of the indications that might be drawn from such facts. As an initial step in correcting this procedure we feel that the Secretariat of the Watch Committee under G-2 direction should be strengthened. Gen. Bolling mentioned that he was appreciative of this fact and was planning to appoint a colonel as chief of the Secretariat. I thereupon volunteered, on behalf of CIA, to send one body to the Secretariat and also suggested that other agencies be requested to furnish bodies to the Watch Secretariat. With this increased TO, we felt that the Watch Secretariat should be able to circulate, on the afternoon of the day prior to the meeting (viz., on Tuesday) a review of all of the evidence collected from all of the agencies participating in the Watch Committee procedure. With this paper before them, the Watch Committee members could then devote their time to a discussion of what indications could be inferred from this evidence, their relative priority, etc., and anyone having any objection, on the basis of evidence coming in, would have the evidence to cite before him. Gen. Bolling agreed with this theory and also was extremely pleased at our offer to strengthen the Secretariat of the Watch Committee. He concurred in having this procedure worked out in detail, and implemented. I indicated that Mr. Reber and representatives of O/CI would soon be in touch with Gen. Weckerling to work out an appropriate paper on this subject.

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